

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 HEW-08 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 RSC-01 /076 W

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R 071600Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5259

UNCLAS ROME 7918

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, TBIO, IT

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF PLASTIC SYRINGES

DEPT PASS FDA

1. AT END OF MAY, THE ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITA (HIGHER INSTITUTE OF HEALTH) REQUESTED SEIZURE OF PLASTIC SYRINGES PRODUCED BY PHARMASEAL COMPANY OF TRIESTE UNDER BRAND NAME OF STILEX. ACCORDING TO ITALIAN PRESS, THESE SYRINGES ARE PRODUCED UNDER AN AMERICAN LICENSE. SAMPLES OF PLASTIC SYRINGES PRODUCED BY OTHER COMPANIES WER ALSO SEIZED FOR INVESTIGATION BY THE INSTITUTE.

2. INVESTIGATION BY INSTITUTE REVEALED THAT PHARMASEAL SYRINGES CONTAINED TOO MUCH SILICON WHICH IT IS FEARED MIGHT CAUSE SECONDARY EFFECTS IN THE BLOOD STREAM. THESIS SUSTAINS THAT EXCESS SILICON MIGHT BE SICHARGED INTO BLOOD STREAM IN FORM OF INDESTRUCTIBLE DROPS THAT MIGHT OCCLUDE TINY CAPILLARY VEINS PRODUCING BLOOD CLOTS. PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT ITALIAN MEDICAL OPINION IS DIVIDED ON WHETHER UNDER THESE CONDITIONS SILICON WOULD BE A HEALTH HAZARD.

3. OTHER BRANDS OF PLASTIC SYRINGES HAVE BEEN FOUND TO BE SAFE BY INSTITUTE.

4. INVESTIGATION HAS RESULTED IN SEIZURE OF 20,000 PHARMASEAL SYRINGES. BUT NOW THERE IS PROBLEM DUE TO FACT UNCLASSIFIED

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THERE IS NO LAW IN ITALY WHICH REGULATES SANITARY-TECHNICAL

INSTRUMENTS. IT IS UNCERTAIN AT PRESENT WHAT OTHER MEASURES
THE INSTITUTE OR MINISTRY OF HEALTH MAY TAKE IN
THIS MATTER.BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLASTICS, MEDICAL CARE, EQUIPMENT, HEALTH, CUSTOMS SEIZURES, LICENSES, SILICON
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME07918
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740146-1031
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740664/aaaacd1.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEIZURE OF PLASTIC SYRINGES DEPT PASS FDA
TAGS: TPHY, TBIO, IT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005